

ROBERT J. TRIOZZI

Clinical Professor of Law
Co-Director Criminal Justice Center
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EDUCATION:

- 1979 B.A. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (History and Government)
- 1982 J. D. Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland, Ohio

COURT ADMISSIONS

- 1982 Supreme Court of Ohio
- 1983 United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- 2009 United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- 2010 Supreme Court of the United States of America

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 2022-Present Clinical Professor of Law, *Cleveland-Marshall School of Law, Cleveland State University*, Cleveland, Ohio
Co-Director of the C|M Law Criminal Justice Center and Director Pretrial Justice Clinic.
- 2020-2022 Director, Pretrial Justice Clinic, *Cleveland-Marshall School of Law*, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio
- 2019-2020 Of Counsel, *McDonald Hopkins, LLP*, Cleveland Ohio
Public Law, Public Finance, Public-Private Partnerships
- 2015-2019 Director of Law, *Cuyahoga County*
Director of legal department responsible for providing legal service to the County Executive, County Council and Executive Departments of Cuyahoga County government with direct involvement in state and federal litigation, labor and employment, county contracts, legislation, state and federal government relations, and matters relating to criminal justice.

- 2011-2015 Senior Counsel, *Calfee, Halter & Griswold, LLP*
Government Relations and Legislation, Public Law and Finance, Litigation, Public-Private Partnerships, White Collar Investigations.
- 2006-2011 Director of Law and Chief Prosecutor, *City of Cleveland*
Director of 100 member (75 attorney) legal department responsible for providing legal services to the Mayor, the City Council and all departments, boards and commissions of the City of Cleveland, with direct involvement in the following:
- Civil Division – *State and Federal Litigation* including civil-rights claims and allegations of police misconduct; employment law, contractual and construction disputes; environmental protection; and public nuisance, consumer, foreclosure and sub-prime lending actions. *Code Enforcement* civil and criminal prosecutions, including consumer protection, MBE/FBE – Small Business code, and enforcement of building, fire, health, and zoning codes. *Labor and employment*, including collective bargaining negotiations. *Regulatory matters* concerning Division of Water, Cleveland Public Power, and Department of Port Control. *Legislation and Finance*, including prosecution of tax evasion cases. *Real Estate and Development* including real estate and development transactions and collection actions.
 - Criminal Division – Prosecution of all criminal misdemeanor cases in the city including domestic violence, assault, and OMVI. Review and filing of all felony charges and review of police use of deadly force cases. Special programs include the Domestic Violence Prosecution Unit and the Mediation dispute resolution program.
 - Notable Cases: *City of Cleveland v Ameritrust Securities Inc., et al.*, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 01-cv-139 (Lawsuit brought against 21 of the major Wall Street investment banks seeking recover for damages to the City of Cleveland as a result of subprime lending activities in the city); *City of Cleveland v. State of Ohio*, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas Case No. CV 07 618492, Ohio Court of Appeals Case No. 09 092663, Ohio Supreme Court Case No. (Ohio home-rule action challenging state legislation prohibiting municipalities from enforcing local gun ordinances that were not in conflict with state law);
- 1996-2005 Judge, *Cleveland Municipal Court*
- Presided over high volume civil and criminal case docket and trials.
 - Co-founder of the Mental Health Court Dedicated Docket, Domestic Violence Dedicated Docket and School Truancy Special Docket.
 - Faculty member and lecturer for the Ohio Judicial College and various state-wide bar associations on aspects of law, trial procedure, ethics and professionalism.
 - National presenter and lecturer on Domestic Violence (Anaheim, Reno, San Diego, Seattle, Chicago) and School Truancy (New Orleans).
 - Notable published opinions include *Discover Bank v. Owens* (2004), 129 Ohio Misc.2d 71 (Consumer Protection case holding lender responsible for improvident lending practices]; *Cleveland v. Broyles* (1996), 83 Ohio Misc.2d 50 (Access to Firearms case holding adult accountable for recklessly leaving a weapon where a child could easily access).

- 1995 Of Counsel, *Goodman, Weiss, Miller*, Cleveland, Ohio.
Business litigation involving employment discrimination and contracts.
- 1993-1994 District Director, Congressman Eric Fingerhut, (Ohio-19)
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.
Senior counsel to Congressman Fingerhut and head of 15-member district staff responsible for case management and constituent services in Cuyahoga, Lake and Ashtabula Counties. Represented the Congressman at all district events, meetings, and forums with emphasis on health care reform.
- 1983-1993 Attorney at Law, *Gardner, McGinty & Stanton*, Cleveland, Ohio.
Civil and criminal litigation including representation of indigent defendants in capital cases. Notable cases: State of Ohio v. Darrin Lawrence, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Case No. CR 219095, Aggravated Murder, Capital case; State of Ohio v. Rita Peak, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Case No. CR 236732, Aggravated Murder, Capital case.
- 1981-1982 Law Clerk, *United States Attorneys Office*, Criminal Division, Northern District of Ohio, Cleveland, Ohio

APPOINTED CIVIC OFFICES

- 2008 Vice-Chair, City of Cleveland Charter Review Commission
- 2000-2001 Member, Cleveland Municipal School District Facilities Assessment Commission
- 1997-1999 Member, Cleveland Summit on Education Strategy Council
- 1992 Vice-president, City of Cleveland Civil Service Commission

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Adjunct Faculty, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University
Felony Sentencing 2018
Criminal Justice Decision Points 2020, 2021
Juvenile Law 2022
- Faculty, Ohio Judicial College, Supreme Court of Ohio
Trial Skills 1998-2004
Mental Illness in Civil Cases 2002
Domestic Violence 2002
Acting Judge: Domestic Violence 2001
Law and Literature 1999
Judicial Skills 1998

Faculty, National College of District Attorneys
National Conferences on Domestic Violence
Anaheim 2000
Reno 2001
Chicago 2002
New Orleans 2003
Anaheim 2004

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Leader in Residence, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University 2019- 2022
Member, Cuyahoga County Justice Center Diversion Committee 2019-Present
Member, Detroit-Shoreway Restorative Justice Committee 2019-Present
Co-Chair, Cuyahoga County Stepping Up Initiative 2015-2019
Member, White House Data Driven Justice Initiative 2015-2016
Member, Healthy Cleveland 2.0 Behavioral Health Committee 2014
Member, Greater Cleveland Partnership, Government Affairs Council 2013-2015
Member, Cleveland Bench-Bar Committee 2013-2016
Member, Cleveland Bar Foundation, Board of Directors 2007-2013, 2014-2015
Member, Northern Ohio Law Directors Association 2012-2019
Member, Master of the Bench, William K. Thomas Inn of Court 2003-2011
Member, Cleveland Bar Association, Board of Directors 1999-2002
Member, Cuyahoga County Justice Management Reform Committee 2006-2011
Chairperson, Ohio Judicial Conference New Judge Mentoring Committee 2003- 2006
Member, Ohio Judicial Conference Public Confidence and Outreach Committee 2003-2006
Member, Supreme Court of Ohio, Domestic Violence Advisory Committee 2002-2006
Member, Mental Health Advocacy Coalition Committee 2003-2005
Member, Federation for Community Planning, Mental Health Initiative Advisory Committee, 2001- 2003
Federation for Community Planning, Comprehensive Strategy for Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Justice Work Group Committee, 1999-2000
Co-Chairperson, Eighth District Judicial Conference, Government Agencies Committee (2001)
Co-Chairperson, Cleveland Bar Association Education Initiative 1998-2005
Author and coordinator for the annual Cleveland Mock Trial Competition for senior high school students in the Cleveland Municipal School District 1996-2005.
Coordinated proficiency test tutoring program to help students prepare for the citizenship portion of the exam 2000-2005. Pilot program-Martin Luther King, Jr. Law & Public Service H.S. 1997-1999.
Chairperson, Cuyahoga County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, 2001-2006
Chairperson of the Cleveland Jurisdiction Team DVCC 1999-2000.
Coordinated anti-stalking/dating violence educational workshops for 9th grade students of

the Cleveland Municipal School district 2000-2005.
Co-chair, Cleveland Municipal Court Mental Health Task Force
Engaged in the establishment of court monitored mentally disordered offender program
for misdemeanor offenders 1998-2001
Member, Cuyahoga County Mental Health Court Committee 2002-2015
Member, Partnership for a Safer Cleveland Youth Safety Leadership Committee
Coordinated special truancy dockets for minor's curfew violators, 1996-99
Member Northern Ohio Municipal Judges Association 1996-2005
Member, The Justinian Forum 1996-present
Life Member, The Judicial Conference of the 8th Judicial District 1987-present
Panel Member, Cuyahoga Common Pleas Court Arbitration Commission 1986-1992
Panel Member, Criminal Justice Panel for the United States District Court, Northern District of
Ohio 1986-1992
Member, Cuyahoga County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association 1983-1992

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Graduate, Leadership Cleveland, Class of 2003
Graduate, Leadership Ashtabula, Class of 1994
Member, City Club of Cleveland, Special Program Committee 2013-2014
Member, Literacy Cooperative of Greater Cleveland, Board of Directors 2008-2014
Member, Cleveland Woman's Foundation, Board of Directors 2006-2008
Board Member, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Metro-Cleveland 2002
Board Member, Center for Mental Retardation 2002-2004
Board Member, Substance Abuse Initiative of Greater Cleveland 1998-2005
Board Member, Cleveland Baseball Federation 2002-2006
Board Member, St. Augustine Health Campus 1996-2002
Board Member, Commission on Catholic Community Action, Cleveland Diocese, 1995-1998
Member Executive Committee, Coalition to Save our Kids, 1991-1992
Member, Cornell Club of Northeastern Ohio Scholarship Selection Committee 1991-1992
President, Ward 11 Democratic Club 1990-1993
Action Team Leader, Collinwood Area Schools/General Electric Corp. Strategic Planning Team
1990
Board Member, The Covenant Early Childhood Programs of University Circle 1989-1993
Member, Nottingham House Advisory Committee (Group Home) 1989-1992
Board Member, Lakeshore Neighborhoods, Inc. 1989-1992
President, St. Jerome Church Social Concerns Committee 1989-1992
President, Bonniewood Street Association 1987-1993
Board Member, Little Italy Redevelopment Association 1983-1986
Board Member, Epilepsy Foundation of Northeast Ohio Advisory Board 1983-1987

PRESENTATIONS:

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Leadership Academy, "Leadership" 10/26/17
Ideastream, "Mental Health Jail Diversion Programs" 8/21/17
WCPN, Sound of Ideas, "Bail Reform" 4/13/17
Anti-Defamation League Cleveland, "Bail Reform" 5/22/16
CMBA Fair Housing Forum, "Legislative Strategies in Combating Discrimination" 4/27/16
Northeast Ohio Law Directors Association, "Cuyahoga County Government Update" 6/11/15
Ohio State Bar Association, Litigation Section, Panel Discussion, 5/8/13
City Club of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Candidate Debate 2/15/12
Case Western Reserve School of Law, 1L Orientation Ceremony Keynote, 8/29/09
International Municipal Lawyers Association, Washington, DC, "Subprime Litigation" 4/11/08
Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, "Wall Street Subprime Litigation" 7/26/08
Anti-Defamation League, "Civil Rights and Civic Responsibility" 6/18/08
Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, "Hot Topics in Litigation" 7/19/07
Italian American Cultural Foundation, Teacher Appreciation Dinner, Keynote 11/1/06
Cleveland Bar Association, "Consumer Alternatives to Bankruptcy" 10/23/06
American Society for Public Administration, Cleveland State University, 4/26/06
City Club of Cleveland, Mayoral Candidate Debate 9/27/05
Ohio NAMI, "How to Start a Mental Health Court Docket" 6/14/04
King County District Court, Seattle Washington, "Working With Your Judge on Domestic Violence Cases" 4/8/04
Case Western Reserve School of Medicine Urban Health Center, "Gun Violence – A Courtroom Perspective" 12/3/03
Case Western Reserve School of Medicine Urban Health Center, "Guns and the Law" 2/18/04
Ohio Judicial Conference, "Public Confidence in the Courts" 2003
Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, "Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Stalking" 9/6/02
Ohio State Bar Association, "A View from the Bench – Trial Objections" 8/11/02
Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association, "Mental Health Courts" 6/26/02
NAMI Cuyahoga "Mental Health Courts" 6/20/02
Ohio State Bar Association, Family Violence Symposium "A View from the Bench" 4/11/02
Martin Luther King, Jr. High School, Commencement Speaker, 5/31/01
Gun Violence Coalition, First Monday, "Gun Violence – A Courtroom Perspective" 10/2/00
American Petroleum Institute API Delta Chapter, "Truancy – One Court's Response" 4/26/2000
Cleveland Bar Association, Peoples Law School, "Criminal Law" 9/19/99
Cuyahoga County Bar Association, "Misdemeanor Sentencing" 4/24/99
Cleveland Bar Association, Peoples Law School "Misdemeanor Law" 9/21/96
Geneva Rotary, Geneva, Ohio, "Revitalizing the Manufacturing Economic Base" 8/2/94
Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, Ohio, "Current Issues Facing Congress" 6/3/94
Lake County Council of Governments, Willoughby, Ohio "Legislative Issues" 5/5/94
Lake Erie College, Painesville, Ohio, "Health Care Reform" 9/22/93
Painesville Area Chamber of Commerce, "The Budget Deficit – Impact on Small Business" 6/11/93
Earth Day Coalition, Cleveland Zoo, Cleveland, Ohio, "Congress and the Ohio Plan" 4/25/93
Mentor Chamber of Commerce "Legislative Initiatives of the 103rd Congress" 2/23/93

HONORS:

Inside Business Magazine, 2009 Leading Lawyer (2009)
Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Society of Benchers (2006)
National Association of Social Workers, Ohio Chapter, Public Citizen of the Year (2006)
Safe, Disciplined & Drug Free Schools, “Service Award” (2004)
Ashtabula Harbor High School Hall of Fame “Career Achievement Award” (2004)
Cleveland Bar Association “Justice for All Award” (2003)
Domestic Violence Center “Vision Award” (2003)
A Cultural Exchange “Community Partnership Award” (2003)
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill – Cuyahoga County “Outstanding Community Leadership” (2002)
Partnership for a Safer Cleveland, “Vision Award” (1998)
Cleveland Bar Association “President’s Award” (1998)
Ward 11 Democratic Club “Community Service Award” (1993)
City of Cleveland, 6th District “Community Service Award” (1991)
Epilepsy Foundation of Northeast Ohio “Advocacy Award” (1986)